

Letters from Robert Atkin to Alexander Graham Bell, From August 21, 1878, to October 25, 1878, with transcript

COPY 3-2-15 1878 Robert Atkin, Chelsea, Aug 21st 482 Kings Road Chelsea 21st August
1878 Re invention Aerial Ship Sir:

I have read with much interest your letter of the 17th July in the "Standard". I have also
cause of complaint against the Government. I am the inventor and patenter of an Aerial
Ship capable of being propelled and steered in the air and made to ascend or descend
without expending ballast or gas.

I have good drawings of it made to scale also a Report of it by an Engineer who is a
Member of the Council of the Aeronautical Society of Great Britain. If you will allow me,
I should like as a matter of business to submit the drawings to you, as I think with your
approval it will be an easy matter to get capital to set it afloat. Of course you will share in
its success.

Yours faithfully Robert Atkin. Master Mariner A. G. Bell, Esq. 115 Cannon Street, City

COPY 3-2-15 482 Kings Road, Chelsea 25th October, 1878 Aerial Ships Alexander
Graham Bell, Esq., 57 Cromwell Road, S. W. Dear Sir:

I beg to inform you that since I had the pleasure of an interview with you, I have acquired
considerable information about Gas Engines and their consumption of coal gas, and I find
that, I shall not require to carry material to generate Hydrogen gas on the voyage, for a
vessel of the dimensions I showed to you will be capable of (circumnavigating the) in
letter circumnavigating the Globe in the air and carry (100) one hundred passengers with
plenty of water and provisions, and will be able to keep on without stopping to replenish.

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All the calculations I have made have been carefully examined by competent persons and found correct. I purpose calling at your house to-morrow (Saturday) evening, i f you will not be at home will you kindly drop me a note to that effect and oblige

Your obedient servant Robert Atkin. 1878 R. Atkin, London, 25 Oct. Aerial Ship -